

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

In re:

FRANCHISE GROUP, INC., *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 24-12480 (JTD)

(Jointly Administered)

Ref. Docket Nos. 7 & 128

**CERTIFICATION OF COUNSEL REGARDING *REVISED*
PROPOSED FINAL ORDER (I) PROHIBITING UTILITY COMPANIES FROM
ALTERING, REFUSING, OR DISCONTINUING UTILITY SERVICES, (II) DEEMING
UTILITY COMPANIES ADEQUATELY ASSURED OF FUTURE PAYMENT,
(III) ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING OBJECTIONS BY
UTILITY COMPANIES AND DETERMINING ADDITIONAL ADEQUATE
ASSURANCE OF PAYMENT, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

On November 3, 2024, the debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned cases (collectively, the “Debtors”) filed the *Debtors’ Motion for Interim and Final Orders (I) Prohibiting Utility Companies from Altering, Refusing, or Discontinuing Utility Services,*

¹ The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of their U.S. federal tax identification numbers, to the extent applicable, are Franchise Group, Inc. (1876), Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC (1225), Freedom VCM Interco Holdings, Inc. (2436), Freedom Receivables II, LLC (4066), Freedom VCM Receivables, Inc. (0028), Freedom VCM Interco, Inc. (3661), Freedom VCM, Inc. (3091), Franchise Group New Holdco, LLC (0444), American Freight FFO, LLC (5743), Franchise Group Acquisition TM, LLC (3068), Franchise Group Intermediate Holdco, LLC (1587), Franchise Group Intermediate L, LLC (9486), Franchise Group Newco Intermediate AF, LLC (8288), American Freight Group, LLC (2066), American Freight Holdings, LLC (8271), American Freight, LLC (5940), American Freight Management Company, LLC (1215), Franchise Group Intermediate S, LLC (5408), Franchise Group Newco S, LLC (1814), American Freight Franchising, LLC (1353), Home & Appliance Outlet, LLC (n/a), American Freight Outlet Stores, LLC (9573), American Freight Franchisor, LLC (2123), Franchise Group Intermediate B, LLC (7836), Buddy’s Newco, LLC (5404), Buddy’s Franchising and Licensing LLC (9968), Franchise Group Intermediate V, LLC (5958), Franchise Group Newco V, LLC (9746), Franchise Group Intermediate BHF, LLC (8260); Franchise Group Newco BHF, LLC (4123); Valor Acquisition, LLC (3490), Vitamin Shoppe Industries LLC (3785), Vitamin Shoppe Global, LLC (1168), Vitamin Shoppe Mariner, LLC (6298), Vitamin Shoppe Procurement Services, LLC (8021), Vitamin Shoppe Franchising, LLC (8271), Vitamin Shoppe Florida, LLC (6590), Betancourt Sports Nutrition, LLC (0470), Franchise Group Intermediate PSP, LLC (5965), Franchise Group Newco PSP, LLC (2323), PSP Midco, LLC (6507), Pet Supplies “Plus”, LLC (5852), PSP Group, LLC (5944), PSP Service Newco, LLC (6414), WNW Franchising, LLC (9398), WNW Stores, LLC (n/a), PSP Stores, LLC (9049), PSP Franchising, LLC (4978), PSP Subco, LLC (6489), PSP Distribution, LLC (5242), Franchise Group Intermediate SL, LLC (2695), Franchise Group Newco SL, LLC (7697), and Educate, Inc. (5722). The Debtors’ headquarters is located at 109 Innovation Court, Suite J, Delaware, Ohio 43015.

(II) Deeming Utility Companies Adequately Assured of Future Payment, (III) Establishing Procedures for Resolving Objections by Utility Companies and Determining Additional Adequate Assurance of Payment, and (IV) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 7] (the “Motion”). A proposed form of order approving the Motion on a final basis was attached to the Motion as Exhibit B (the “Proposed Final Order”).

On November 6, 2024, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the “Court”) entered an order approving the Motion on an interim basis [Docket No. 128] (the “Interim Order”). Pursuant to the Interim Order, any objections or responses to entry of the Proposed Final Order were to be filed and served by November 20, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) (the “Objection Deadline”), as may have been extended for certain parties.

Prior to the Objection Deadline, the Debtors received responses and an objection, as applicable, to the Proposed Final Order from (i) the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors; (ii) certain Duke Energy entities and Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.; (iii) Waste Management; (iv) Granite Telecommunications, LLC; and (v) the Ad Hoc Utilities Group [Docket No. 280] (collectively, the “Respondents”). To resolve the Respondents’ responses, the Debtors have agreed to revise the Proposed Final Order, as reflected in the revised Proposed Final Order attached hereto as Exhibit A (the “Revised Proposed Final Order”).² For the convenience of the Court and other interested parties, a blackline comparing the Revised Proposed Final Order against the Proposed Final Order is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

WHEREFORE, the Debtors did not receive any objections or responses other than those described herein, and the Respondents do not object to entry of the Revised Proposed Final Order,

² The Revised Proposed Final Order also includes certain conforming changes to the Interim Order. Additionally, certain of the Respondents’ comments were resolved without changes to the Proposed Final Order.

the Debtors respectfully request that the Court enter the Revised Proposed Final Order without further notice or a hearing at the Court's earliest convenience.

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Dated: December 9, 2024
Wilmington, Delaware

**YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR,
LLP**

/s/ Shella Borovinskaya

Edmon L. Morton (Del. No. 3856)
Matthew B. Lunn (Del. No. 4119)
Allison S. Mielke (Del. No. 5934)
Shella Borovinskaya (Del. No. 6758)
Rodney Square
1000 North King Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
Telephone: (302) 571-6600
Facsimile: (302) 571-1253
emorton@ycst.com
mlunn@ycst.com
amielke@ycst.com
sborovinskaya@ycst.com

-and-

WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP

Debra M. Sinclair (admitted *pro hac vice*)
Matthew A. Feldman (admitted *pro hac vice*)
Betsy L. Feldman (Del. No. 6410)
Joseph R. Brandt (admitted *pro hac vice*)
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: (212) 728-8000
Facsimile: (212) 728-8111
dsinclair@willkie.com
mfeldman@willkie.com
bfeldman@willkie.com
jbrandt@willkie.com

*Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtors
and Debtors in Possession*